MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH   JANUARY 18, 2011

CERVICAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

The Board of Supervisors traditionally proclaims January as "Cervical Health Awareness Month" to draw attention to the many activities planned throughout Los Angeles County to focus attention on the importance of the early detection and prevention of cervical cancer.

The latest data shows that 472 women in Los Angeles County were diagnosed with cervical cancer in 2008, and 152 women died unnecessarily of it – because cervical cancer is a preventable disease.

Although many strides have been made and the incidence and mortality of cervical cancer is decreasing, certain populations such as low income women of color remain at high risk. With the FDA approval of two vaccines against the Human Papillomavirus or HPV, there are effective new weapons in our fight against this disease. However, since the HPV vaccines will prevent only 70% of cervical cancers, it is still important that women continue to receive Pap test screenings.

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MOTION

MOLINA   _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY   _____

KNABE   _____

ANTONOVICH   _____

To increase the number of underserved women screened, the Los Angeles County Office of Women's Health provides appointments for free Pap tests to low-income women who call their 1-800 multi-lingual hotline.

No woman should have to die from this preventable disease.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim the month of January 2011 as "Cervical Health Awareness Month" throughout Los Angeles County, in recognition of the many activities to increase awareness that cervical cancer is preventable with vaccination prior to exposure to HPV and routine screening exams that lead to its early detection and treatment; and

2. Encourage County departments to provide educational activities for department staff, and to coordinate and participate in community outreach and screening activities during January 2011.

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